

CLAIMS

1. A surge arrester (1) comprising
 - 5 a stack (10) of a plurality of cylindrical varistor blocks (10a), preferably made of metal oxide, which are arranged one after the other in the axial direction of the varistor blocks (10a),
 - 10 an upper end electrode (11) and a lower end electrode (12), clamping members (15) of insulating material comprising at least three loops (15a) of continuously wound fibre, which connect the upper end electrode (11) to the lower end electrode (12),
 - 15 a bursting-protective bandage (16) in the form of a plurality of rings or bands (16a) wound of fibre, and
 - 20 a surrounding, electrically insulating, outer casing (19) of rubber or other polymeric material,
- characterized in that
 - 25 the loops (15a) are wound of glass fibre and exhibit an asymmetrical cross section.
2. A surge arrester (1) according to claim 1, characterized in that the asymmetrical cross sections of the loops (15a) are shaped and located so that not only two corners, one on either strand, make contact with the varistor stack (10).
3. A surge arrester (1) according to claim 1, characterized in that the asymmetrical cross sections of the loops (15a) are adapted to increase the contact surface against the varistor stack (10).
4. A surge arrester (1) according to claim 1,

characterized in that the asymmetrical cross sections of the loops (15a) are adapted to shorten the free span of the rings or bands (16a) inside the loops (15a).

- 5 5. A surge arrester (1) according to claim 1,
characterized in that the asymmetrical cross sections of the loops (15a) are adapted to enable the rings or bands (16a) to be wound closer to the stack (10).
- 10 6. A surge arrester (1) according to claim 1,
characterized in that the asymmetrical cross sections of the loops (15a) are adapted such that the shapes of the rings or bands (16a) become approximately circular.
- 15 7. A surge arrester (1) according to claim 1,
characterized in that the cross sections of the loops (15a) essentially correspond to two mirror-inverted rhombs or rhomboids (V, H).
- 20 8. A surge arrester (1) according to any of the preceding claims, **characterized** in that the rings or bands (16a) are wound of aramide fibre or PBO fibre with an epoxy or vinyl ester matrix.

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